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Art Unit: 1614

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JENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IN THE UNITED S

IN RE APPLICATION OF

AULT ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: 10/006,311

FILED: DECEMBER 4, 2001

FOR: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS FOR THE ORAL DELIVERY

OF PHARMACOLOGICALLY ACTIVE AGENTS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicants believe this paper is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, and so under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3) no fees are required. If a fee is deemed to be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0134.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicants wish to call the Examiner's attention to the references cited on the attached form(s) PTO-1449.

Copies of these references are enclosed herewith.

The Examiner is requested to consider the foregoing information in relation to this application and indicate that each reference was considered by returning a copy of the initialed PTO 1449 form(s).

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Corporation Patent and Trademark Dept. 564 Morris Avenue Summit, NJ 07901-1027 (908) 522-6932

Date: June 21, 2002

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Attorney for Applicants Reg. No. 35,590